

Claims

- [c1] A method of inhibiting the growth of cancer cells comprising the step of contacting at least one target cell with an effective amount of a peptide hormone derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone.
- [c2] The method of claim 1 where the peptide hormone derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone is selected from the group consisting of atrial natriuretic peptide, long acting natriuretic peptide, vessel dilator, and kiliuretic peptide.
- [c3] The method of claim 1 wherein the target cell is chosen from the group consisting of adenocarcinomas, small cell carcinomas and squamous cell carcinoma.
- [c4] The method of claim 1 wherein the effective amount of peptide hormone is administered in vivo.
- [c5] A method of inhibiting the growth of cancer cells comprising the step of co-administering, to at least one target cell, an effective amount of a combination of peptide hormones derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone

- [c6] The method of claim 5 where the combination of peptide hormones derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone is selected from the group consisting of atrial natriuretic peptide, long acting natriuretic peptide, vessel dilator, and kiliuretic peptide.
- [c7] The method of claim 5 wherein the target cell is chosen from the group consisting of adenocarcinomas, small cell carcinomas and squamous cell carcinoma.
- [c8] The method of claim 5 wherein the effective amount of the combination of peptide hormones is administered in vivo.
- [c9] A method of inhibiting the growth of cancer cells comprising the step of contacting at least one target cell with an effective amount of a peptide hormone derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone, wherein the peptide hormone derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone is selected from the group consisting of atrial natriuretic peptide, long acting natriuretic peptide, vessel dilator, and kiliuretic peptide, wherein the target cell is chosen from the group consisting of adenocarcinomas, small cell carcinomas and squamous cell carcinoma, and the effective amount of peptide hormone is administered in vivo.

[c10] A method of inhibiting the growth of cancer cells comprising the step of co-administering, to at least one target cell, an effective amount of a combination of peptide hormones derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone, wherein the combination of peptide hormones derived from the atrial natriuretic peptide prohormone is selected from the group consisting of atrial natriuretic peptide, long acting natriuretic peptide, vessel dilator, and kaliuretic peptide, wherein the target cell is chosen from the group consisting of adenocarcinomas, small cell carcinomas and squamous cell carcinoma, and the effective amount of the combination of peptide hormones is administered in vivo.